Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the prior Sequence Listing with the attached Sequence Listing.

Please replace paragraph [0042] with the following amended paragraph:

[0042] The target oligonucleotide or its complement typically includes a reporter or a coupling agent for attachment of a reporter. Observation of the solid support to determine the presence or absence of the reporter associated with a particular capture oligonucleotide indicates whether a particular analyte-specific sequence is present in the sample. Suitable reporters include, without limitation, biotin, fluorescents, chemilluminescents, digoxigenin, spin labels, radio labels, DNA cleavage moities moieties, chromaphors or fluoraphors. Examples of suitable coupling moieties include, but are not limited to, amines, thiols, hydrosines, alcohols or alkyl groups.

Please replace paragraph [0051] with the following amended paragraph:

[0051] Non-standard bases, which form hydrogen-bonding base pairs, can also be constructed as described, for example, in U.S. Patents Nos. 5,432,272, 5,965,364, 6,001,983, and 6,037.120 and U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/775,401, all of which are incorporated herein by reference. By "non-standard base" it is meant a base [[that]] other than A, G, C, T, or U that is susceptible of incorporation into an oligonucleotide and which is capable of base-pairing by hydrogen bonding, or by hydrophobic, entropic, or van der Waals interactions to form base pairs with a complementary base. Figure 1 illustrates several examples of suitable bases and their corresponding base pairs. Specific examples of these bases include the following bases in base pair combinations (iso-C/iso-G, K/X, H/J, and M/N):

Appl. No.: 09/977,615

where A is the point of attachment to the sugar or other portion of the polymeric backbone and R is H or a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group. It will be recognized that other non-standard bases utilizing hydrogen bonding can be prepared, as well as modifications of the above-identified non-standard bases by incorporation of functional groups at the non-hydrogen bonding atoms of the bases. To designate these non-standard bases in Figures 3 to 9, the following symbols will be used: X indicates iso-C and Y indicates iso-G.

Н

M

N

Н

Please replace paragraph [0071] with the following amended paragraph:

[0071] The target oligonucleotide (or an oligonucleotide complementary to at least a portion of the target oligonucleotide) includes a reporter or a coupling agent for attachment of a reporter. The reporter or coupling agent can be attached to the polymeric backbone or any of the bases of the target or complementary oligonucleotide oligonucleotide. Techniques are known for attaching a reporter group to nucleotide bases (both natural and non-standard bases). Examples of reporter groups include biotin, digoxigenin, spin-label groups, radio labels, DNA-cleaving moieties, chromaphores, and fluorophores such as fluoroscein. Examples of coupling agents include biotin or substituents containing reactive functional groups. The reporter group is then provided attached to streptavidin or contains a reactive functional group that interacts with the coupling agent to bind the reporter group to the target or complementary complementary oligonucleotide.

Please replace paragraph [00200] with the following amended paragraph:

[00200] The genotype of a polymorphic loci was determined following the amplification, query, and capture of target nucleic acid sequences from genomic DNA samples. The first step, a PCR reaction, included a set of PCR primers: a first primer A and a second primer B. The primer B contained a 5' sequence non-complementary to the target with an iso-C at the junction of the analyte specific and non-complementary portion. The primer pair was designed to hybridize to and amplify a region of mouse genomic DNA that encompasses a known polymorphic site. The second step, [[a]] an allele specific primer extension (ASPE) reaction, included a set of tagged allele-specific primers. Each tagged allele-specific primer was composed of a 5' tagging sequence containing non-standard nucleotides (iso-G), followed by a c3 spacer, followed by a 3' sequence designed to hybridize to one of the DNA strands amplified in the previous PCR step. The allele specificity was determined by the 3' nucleotide of each tagged allele-specific primer. The set of tagged allele-specific primers was designed to query a known polymorphic site

embedded in the amplified sequence. A DNA ligase and a reporter oligonucleotide containing a 5' phosphate, and a 3' biotin modifications [[was]] were included in the ASPE reaction. This reporter oligonucleotide was complimentary complementary to the 5' region of primer B used to generate the amplicon that was queried. The strand of the amplified product containing this non-standard base containing region served as the template for the ASPE reaction. During allele specific primer extension, the DNA polymerase terminates at the base prior to the iso-C in the template strand, thus leaving a single stranded region to which the reporter oligonucleotide to hybridize. The complex between the extended ASPE primer, the template, and the reporter oligonucleotide results in a nick structure suitable for ligation by a DNA ligase.

Please replace the Abstract with the following amended paragraph:

Solid support assays using non-standard bases are described. A capture oligonucleotide comprising a molecular recognition sequence is attached to a solid support and hybridized with a target oligonucleotide the solid support. oligonucleotide. In some instances, the molecular recognition sequence includes one or more non-standard bases and hybridizes to a complementary tagging sequence of the target oligonucleotide. In other instances, incorporation of a non-standard base (e.g., via PCR or ligation) is used in the assay.